

and stouter than in the latter form; abdomen blackish in the perfect summer-plumage.

♂ ♂: Total length, 382-411; wing, 187-201; tail f., 102-112; bill from nostr., 10-12 mm.

♀ ♀: Total length, 357-384; wing, 179-189; tail f., 89-110; bill from nostr., 9.3-10.5 mm.

HAB.—Commander Islands.

TYPES.—U. S. Nat. Mus., Nos. 89,059; 89,062; 92,716; 92,709; 89,057; 92,712.

### DIAGNOSES OF THREE NEW SPECIES OF FISHES FROM THE GULF OF MEXICO.

BY TARLETON H. BEAN, M. D., and H. G. DRESEL, Ensign, U. S. N.

Read February 23, 1884, and published by permission of the Director of the U. S. National Museum.

The writers are preparing descriptions of all the fishes of the Gulf of Mexico represented in the collections of the United States National Museum, to form a bulletin of the Museum. As considerable time must elapse before the material can be ready for the press, they present here brief diagnoses of some of the new species in advance of the complete publication.

#### *Siphostoma crinigerum*, new species.

The types of this species are two males, No. 33,173, taken at Pensacola, by Jordan and Stearns. The species is closely related to *S. crinitus* (Jenyns), a species inhabiting the coast of Northern Patagonia.

The snout is very short, less than  $\frac{1}{3}$  length of head. Eye, 5 times in length of head. Head nearly 11 times in total length to caudal base. Height of body, half length of head. Length of marsupium is 4 times in the total to caudal base. Dorsal of 16 or 17 rays. Body rings 15; caudal rings 38 or 39. Dorsal fin above the first  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to 4 caudal rings. The marsupium occupies 17 caudal

rings. Minute filaments above the eyes, and apparently along the sides of the body.

**Phycis floridanus**, new species.

The type of the species is No. 32,762, taken by Silas Stearns at Pensacola. It is about  $7\frac{1}{4}$  inches long. In general appearance it resembles *P. regius*, differing from this in its smaller scales, and more numerous dorsal rays. The greatest height is one-fifth of the total length to caudal base, and equals four-fifths of the length of head. Head 4 times in length to caudal base. Eye slightly less than snout, 5 times in length of head. Maxilla slightly less than mandible, one-half length of head. First dorsal not produced. Ventral about five-fourths length of head. Pectoral equal to head in length. Dorsal XIII, 57; Anal 49. Scales between first dorsal and lateral line in nine or ten rows; about 120 scales in the lateral line.

**Ophichthys guttifer**, new species.

The type of the species numbered 32,647 in the National Museum register is  $22\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length. It resembles *O. ocellatus* (Le Sueur) very closely, but the differences from that species are so important that we cannot consider them sexual.

The greatest height of body equals the distance from the angle of the mouth to the tip of the snout. The dorsal fin begins at a distance behind the vertical from tip of pectoral equal to length of the snout. The length of the pectoral is nearly  $3\frac{1}{2}$  times in length of the head. The head is  $\frac{1}{8}$  of the total length,  $\frac{3}{8}$  of the trunk. Eye  $1\frac{1}{2}$  times in length of snout, 9 times in that of head. Twenty-one or twenty-two small white spots along the median line.